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STATE OF MAINE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY
MAINE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES
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MICHAEL F. KELLY
COMMISSIONER

JAY BRADSHAW
DIRECTOR

BOARD OF EMS
OCTOBER 2, 2002
MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: Leo Bouchard (chair), Carol Pillsbury (chair-elect), Bob Ashby, Sue Dupler, Penelope Lovejoy, Alan Azzara, Peter DiPietrantonio, Bill Dunwoody, Wayne Werts, Kevin Kendall, Richard Doughty, Paul Knowlton, Jim Farrell

Guests: Tom Judge, Kevin Waters, Rick Donohue, MD, Alton Oakes

Regional Coordinators: Jim Caron, Joanne LeBrun, Trisha Coleman (interim coordinator, Northeast EMS)

Staff: Jay Bradshaw, Dwight Corning, Dawn Kinney, Drexell White, Laura Yustak Smith, AAG

1. Introductions were made and guests welcomed.
2. Minutes of September 4, 2002.

MOTION: To accept the minutes of the September 4, 2002, meeting as distributed. (Dunwoody: second by Pillsbury). Unanimous

3. Old Business – Budget Update

Jay reported that while rumors and estimates about the FY03 shortfall abound, the only adjustments that have been made to date were the ones previously discussed, with the addition of unpaid shutdown days for state employees. The next shutdown day will be Friday, October 11. A third shutdown day will also happen, but the date has not yet been announced.

It does appear that the additional \$30,000 cut anticipated in regional funding was not realized during the 1st fiscal quarter. As a result, MEMS will process the remaining \$5,000 per region as soon as possible.

4. New Business

- a. Operations Team Action Items

The Ops Team met on October 1, but there are no items at this time that require Board action.

b. Investigation Committee Action Items

MOTION: To ratify the Investigation Committee meeting minutes of 9/11/02. (Dunwoody; second by Lovejoy). Unanimous

MOTION: To approve the terms of the consent agreement in case # 02-04 (Werts; second by Dunwoody). Carried 11/1

MOTION: To approve the terms of the consent agreement with Dan Moore (Doughty; second by Farrell). Unanimous

MOTION: To approve the terms of the consent agreement with Jacqueline Quinones (Dunwoody; second by Werts). Unanimous

MOTION: To approve the terms of the consent agreement with Stan Larson (Dunwoody; second by Werts). Unanimous

MOTION: To approve the terms of the consent agreement with Adam Towers (Doughty; second by Werts). Unanimous

c. Review and discussion of comments received on proposed EMS Rule changes.

The Board reviewed each section of the proposed rules and each question/comment received. Considerable discussion took place with regard to air ambulance licensing and, in particular, the unique nature of air transportation needs of Vinalhaven and Matinicus Islands. Representatives of Telford Aviation, LifeFlight of Maine, and the Vinalhaven Heath Center each presented detailed information during this discussion. It was the consensus of the Board that MEMS staff work with the interested parties and draft language to be included in the proposed Rules.

MOTION: To empower the Rules Revision Sub Committee to develop draft on air ambulance requirements and to incorporate that text into the proposed Rules. (Dunwoody; second by DiPietrantonio). Unanimous.

Several Board members expressed concern about the timing of Rules hearings as we head into the holiday season, and it was agreed that staff will work toward having hearings in early 2003.

d. Other

i. Nominating Committee

Leo asked for members to serve on a Nominating Committee that will report back at the December Board meeting. Carol Pillsbury, Alan Azzara, Kevin Kendall, and Paul Knowlton offered to serve.

ii. Quality Assurance/Improvement Committee

Several Board members expressed an interest in formalizing a QA/I Committee. Bill Dunwoody expressed an interest and willingness to serve as Committee Chair.

MOTION: To establish a QA/I Committee of the Board, to appoint Bill Dunwoody as the initial committee chair, and to have other committee members appointed by the Board chair as appropriate. (Werts; second by Kendall). Unanimous.

5. Staff Update

a. MEMS

i. Jay reported that MEMS was awarded \$276,205 in response to the Rural Access to Emergency Devices (HRSA) grant application. This amount is about 40% of what was requested, but is one of the largest amounts awarded. MEMS will be working with the Regional Coordinators to develop a plan for purchasing and distributing AEDs.

ii. Dwight distributed a summary on the events of the annual meeting of the National Council of State EMS Training Coordinators that was held in Rapid City, SD. Dwight has served on the Executive Committee of the association for several years and this year was elected to serve as President.

iii. Jay reminded Board members that the Annual Meeting of the National Association of State EMS Directors will be held at the Marriott in South Portland from October 21-26. Board members are welcome to attend the meeting, but are asked to let Jay know ASAP so he can take care of the appropriate registrations.

iv. Jay also reminded members that on Friday, November 8, there will once again be a "Town Meeting" at the Mid Coast EMS (Samoset) Conference. There will be an informal discussion about the proposed Rules changes and an open discussion on any other issues of interest.

b. MDPB

Dr. Burton is attending the ACEP meeting in Seattle, WA. Jay reported that at the September meeting, the MDPB: 1) approved epinephrine autoinjectors for use by appropriately trained and equipped Basic EMTs, 2) Considered, but denied, a request to include Amiodarone in the formulary of medications in the Paramedic Interfacility Transfer Module, and 3) Agreed to end the requirement for regional stickers effective 1/1/03.

There will be no October MDPB meeting.

At the November 20, meeting there will be a presentation and discussion about advanced airway management.

6. Other

Leo reported that due to a lack of business requiring Board action in November, there will likely not be a Board meeting. The next scheduled Board meeting will be on Wednesday, December 4, 2002.

Meeting adjourned at 12:40.